NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

WEEKLY STAFF NEWSLETTER
January 23, 1998

Staff and Volunteers Invited!

Presentation by Anna Deavere Smith

Staff and volunteers are invited to hear Anna Deavere Smith, renowned playwright/actor and social critic, give her presentation, "Snapshots: Glimpses of America in Change on Sunday, February 1 at 4:00 p.m. In her lecture-presentation, Smith tackles the issues of race, class and gender. Through the words of selected real-life characters from her plays, she gives audiences rare insights into the attitudes and perceptions of people from various backgrounds. The *New York Times* has called her the "ultimate expressionist; she does people's souls." To get a glimpse of the work of Ms. Smith, see the video in Stanley Field Hall with her interview on the show *60 Minutes.* A block of free tickets is being held for staff and volunteers which will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. You are welcome to a ticket for yourself and for one guest (2 complimentary tickets per staff member or volunteer). You may purchase tickets for any additional guests you would like to bring. Please contact **Sandra Blake** in the Education Department (x854) for your ticket(s).

Bloodborne Pathogen Training

There will be a training class on January 28, 1998 at 1:00 p.m. in Lecture Hall 2 addressing bloodborne pathogens and avoiding potential infections. The training will last for an hour and all employees are invited. Staff who regularly come in contact with human blood are especially encouraged to attend for personal safety. Questions? Call **Carole Karsarda** (x529)

See the *Natural News* on The Field Museum Intranet

To get there on the net, type in the following string:

http://intranet1

Thanks for the **Soul of the Game**

The **Soul of the Game** exhibit successfully opened January 9 after an exciting press preview with "Chicago legends" present. While visiting **Soul of the Game,** Chicago players expressed their thanks to all the staff who made it happen. Many staff were essential to achieving this on a tight schedule: **Paul Brunsvold, George Chavez, Peter DeRiemer, Eric Frazer, Nel Fetherling, Emma Moskalevskaya, Michael Paha, David Quednau, Katie Stransky, Matthew Timms, Henry Tucker, Steve Villano, Trigg Waller.** A special thanks is due to all for their dedication and perseverence in continuing the installation during the time when half of the building was out of electric power! Kudos to the PR staff for a marvelous media response.

NOON BALLOON -- God Bless El Niño

The Noon Balloon of January 20, 1998 was delivered by **Michael Dillon** (Curator, Botany). He discussed his research studying the effects of the 1997/98 ENSO or El Niño on plant communities in the deserts of western South America. The El Niño has been widely blamed for unusual weather patterns and winter rains in 1997 in Chile were the heaviest recorded in this century. Dillon recently completed six weeks of NSF-funded field work in the Chilean Atacama desert where plant communities are responding to these heavy rains. The collections and observations generated by his field studies, as with those he has made during previous El Niño events, provide the basis for an integrated approach to biodiversity, ecological, and systematic investigations. Slides illustrating the event included new species and rarities discovered in November and December 1997. The visit to these extremely ephemeral floristic communities allowed observation of community development and extensive sampling for molecular systematic investigations in laboratories in England, Spain, South Africa and Japan. He demonstrated how plant populations may serve as sensitive indicators of short and long-term global climate patterns. Lastly, he discussed preliminary results from molecular studies yielding ITS sequence data in Nolana (Solanaceae), a genus distributed throughout the lomas or fog-zone formations of the coastal deserts. Subgeneric groups established on morphological grounds were corroborated by the molecular results, "Alona" is distinct from "Nolana." Also, a large deletion (32 base pairs) in the ITS-2 region for the Peruvian species thus far sampled. If this pattern holds, it will provide a strong signal for biogeographic reconstructions. Results also allow for testing hypotheses of character evolution, including floral and vegetative morphology and ecophysiology.

MISSING A VEST? Someone left a blue down vest in the Geology Office. It is now hanging on the chair by the fax machine. Come get it. -- **Elaine Zeiger**

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.

The Field Museum received the following on January 16:

A resolution adopted by The City Council of the City of Chicago, Illinois

Presented by Alderman Burton F. Natarus on October 28, 1997

WHEREAS, The Field Museum of Chicago purchased the fossil Sue, a 65-million-year-old Tyrannosaurus rex for a record $8.4 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, The Field Museum will display Sue in its main hall and license her image for products such as toys, models, books and magazines according to President John McCarter; and

WHEREAS, The Field Museum is expected to increase attendance up to 10 percent when Sue goes on display in the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, The Field Museum's ownership assures that the nearly complete fossil will be seen by millions of people, be available to researchers and will contribute to additional fossil finds and the advancement of the science of paleontology; and

WHEREAS, The Field Museum engaged art dealer Richard Gray who outbid eight other institutions much to the benefit of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, The Field Museum knows that dinosaurs are a major reason people visit the museum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled in meeting this twenty-eighth day of October, nineteen hundred and ninety-seven A.D., do hereby congratulate the Field Museum of Chicago on the acquisition of the fossil Sue, The Tyrannosaurus rex; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the Field Museum.

Signed by Richard M. Daley, Mayor; and James J. Laski, City Clerk

FIELD MUSEUM PLANS NATIONWIDE CONTEST TO RE-NAME DINOSAUR

Chicago, January 23, 1998 -- The Field Museum announced today it will discontinue using the name "Sue" for its recently acquired *Tyrannosaurus rex* fossil. As part of a multi-year educational campaign surrounding the dinosaur, the Museum plans to launch a nationwide "Name the Field Museum's *T. rex*" contest beginning Tuesday, January 27.

The dinosaur was named "Sue" by The Black Hills Institute, a commercial fossil dealer, in honor of Susan Hendrickson, who found the skeleton in 1990. The Field Museum, with the help of corporate and individual donors, purchased the 65 million-year old *T. rex* on October 4 at Sotheby's auction house in New York. Contributing sponsors for the *T. rex* acquisition include McDonald's Corporation, Walt Disney World Resort, the California State University System, and private individuals.

The Field Museum has tried unsuccessfully to reach agreement with the Black Hills Institute over the use of the name "Sue." The Institute claims ownership of the name. Although The Field Museum believes there is no legal basis for this claim, the Museum was concerned that continuing discussions and lack of resolution would take time and attention away from important research and educational objectives.

"Throughout the country, people have been watching the developments involving our acquisition and preparation of the biggest and most complete *T. rex* ever discovered," said Laura D. Gates, Vice President of Museum Affairs for The Field Museum.

"The public can now participate in naming it, beginning a new chapter in the story of this most unique dinosaur. Our contest will help move this exciting project forward," she added.

The "Name The Field Museum's *T. rex*" contest will begin January 27 and run through January 20, with the winner announced on or about March 12. The contest is open to children in kindergarten through sixth grade during the 1997/1998 school year. Entries are limited to one per child. The grand prize will be a brand new Compaq Presario computer system with advanced multimedia features. In addition to other software, the computer will come with an Encyclopaedia Brittanica CD98 and dinosaur software. Field Museum dinosaur T-shirts will be awarded to 100 runners-up.

Contest entrants should suggest an imaginative one-word name, not necessarily a person's name. The entry should also include the child's reason for his or her choice, written in 25 words or less. The entry will be judged on the following:

- How well the description of the name suggests a personality for the *T. rex* -- 25 points.
- How well the description of the name captures the special, one-of-a-kind qualities of the *T. rex* -- 25 points.
- How easy the name is for kids to pronounce -- 10 points.
- How well the name appeals to people of all ages -- 10 points.
- How memorable and lasting the name would be -- 10 points.
- Overall creativity and appeal of the name -- 20 points.

Contest entry forms and information about the *T. rex* are available from the Museum's web site (www.fmnh.org) or forms can be picked up at the Museum's Information Desk in Stanley Field Hall. In addition, contest entry forms will be available in the following newspapers: The January 27, February 3 and February 10 issues of the *Chicago Tribune's Ki !'s News;* the January 30 and February 6 issues of the *Chicago Sun Times,* and *Exito;* and the January 31 and February 7 issues of the *Daily Defender.*

The contest will kick-off a multi-year educational program by The Field Museum and McDonald's in which educational materials covering the discovery and importance of the *T. rex* will be distributed to schools nationwide.

In addition, the Museum is scheduled to open its new McDonald's Fossil Preparation Laboratory in May. The lab will be a state-of-the-art research facility where Museum visitors can view the preparation of the *T. rex.* Some of the dinosaur's bones will also be prepared by Field Museum scientists in a second lab, scheduled to open this spring at Disney's Animal Kingdom at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida.

After the fossil is completely prepared, it will be mounted for display at The Field Museum in the year 2000.

TELEPHONE PLAN

I am pleased to inform you that **Diane White, Gerry Havranek, Ron Hall** and I have formed a team to address the Museum's telephone needs. Starting on February 2, 1998, all telephone requests (including changes and moves) are to be sent to Gerry. Until February 2, **Monique Proctor** (x380) will continue to take telephone-related calls.

In this edition of the *Natural News,* we have enclosed the Telephone Problem/Request form which is to be used starting February 2. A new telephone number (x660) is now available for telephone issues and requests. This extension will have voice mail, so messages can be left for Gerry if she is not available at the time of your call.

The Field Museum is exploring Museum Campus telephone needs with the Shedd and the Adler. We believe that addressing this issue on a Campus-wide basis could result in improved service and lower costs.

With the assistance of an outside consultant, we will conduct an internal review of Field Museum telephone service at the same time as the Campus-wide review.

Thank you.

Jim Croft
Vice President, Finance and Administration

TELEPHONE PROBLEM / REQUEST

DATE REQUESTED:_____ **DATE COMPLETED:**_____

TO: Gerry Havranek, Public Services

FROM: _____
(Name of Requester)

_____
(Department or Division)

_____
(Room Number) (Telephone or Ext. Number)

_____
(Account Number)

Description of Telephone Problem / Request:

1998

February

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 KWebber-SFH/JST 5:00pm-9:00pm	2 Merck-SFH 7:30pm-11:30pm 350 Chg Habg Gliding-LH I 7:00pm-10:00pm	3	4 Cinema Academy-JST 8:00am-2:00pm 900 Movie Night-JST 4:45pm-10:00pm	5 Newspaper of America-SFH 7:00pm-10:00pm 150 Set-up at 11:00pm for Candreson	6 CAndreson- SFH/Rice 12:00pm-12:00am	7 Infant Welfare Society SFH/Balcony 6:30pm-11:00pm 500 African Heritage Festival JHughes-DR E 1:00-4:0
8 African Heritage Festival	9 S.Gunderson-SFH/JST 5:30pm-8:30pm Nature Camera Club-LH II 7:30pm-10:30pm Primitive Art Society-LHI 7:30pm-10:00pm African Heritage Festival	10 African Heritage Festival	11 UNO-SFH 800 Movie Night-JST 4:45pm-10:00pm	12 BAdams-SFH/Rice 5:00pm-9:00pm	13 -Overnight	14 T-Special Events –SF SKaruschek-JST 3:00pm
15 S.Karuschak-JST 12:00noon-8:00pm KWebber-SFH 5:00pm-9:00pm	16 SRoads-Dev-SFH/Founders' Room Chg Ornith. Society-LHII 7:00pm-10:00pm Chg Mount. Club-LHI 7:00pm-10:00pm	17	18 T-Special Events – SFH/JST Movie Night- JST 4:45pm-10:00pm	19 G.Ryan-SFH 6:00pm-10:00pm 250 Cinema Academy-JST 8:00am-2:00pm	20 Morton Intl- SFH 6:30pm-9:30pm 1500 Univ of IL –Rice 5:30pm 120 Cinema Academy-JST: 8:00am-2:00pm 900	21 Kellogg Undeergrad SFH 7:30pm-12:30 500 BAdams-Rice 9:00 5:00pm
22 St. Basil's Church-SFH/JST 900	23	24 SRhoads-Dev-Library	25 **ASH WEDNESDAY** Chg Herp Society-LHII 7:30-10:00pm Movie Night-JST 4:45pm-10:00pm	26 T-Special Events – SFH,JST Cinema Academy-JST 8:00am-2:00pm	KWebber-Overnight 27 T-SKaruschak-SFH Cinema Academy-JST 8:00am-2:00pm	28 Frances Xavier Ward School SFH –1000 KWebber-JST 8:30am-11:00pm

"BOOK-ABLE" SPACES IN FIELD MUSEUM
1/6/95

SPACE	LOC	MAX	USE	SCHEDULE BY	CONTACT	EXT.	
Classroom 1	GF	50	I P	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Classroom 2	GF	40	I P	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Classroom 3	GF	30	I P	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Conf. Room 1	GF	20	I	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Campaign Ctr/DRA	GF	16	I	Instit. Adv.	Janet Young	210	Restricted use
Dining Room B	GF	4	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room C	GF	6	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room C/D	GF	20	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room D	GF	12	I S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Dining Room E	GF	75	I P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
D&P Conf. Room	4th	10	I	Exhibits	Jessica Newman	329	
Educ. Conf. Room	GF	14	I S	Education	Clara Aytch-Baker	247	
Developers Conf. Rm.	4th	8	I	Exhibits	Jessica Newman	329	
Founder's Room	1st	100	I S	Inst. Adv.	Sarah Gunderson	617	Restricted use
Montgomery Ward H.	GF	150	I P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Lecture Hall II	GF	75	I P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Picnic East (Sch)	GF	320	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Picnic West (Pub)	GF	125	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Rice Center	1st		P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Simpson Theatre	GF	1000	I P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
Zoology Clrm.	3rd	50	I	Zoology	Erica Blair	255	
Webber Resource	1st	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Maori Meeting House	2nd	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Pawnee Earth Lodge	1st	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Place for Wonder	1st	35	P S	Education	Bob Cantu	353	
Stanley Field Hall	1st	35	I P S	Spec. Events	Special Ev. Sec'y	864	
EXHIBIT HALL: Permanent Exhibits			P S	Spec. Events	Carol Konieczny	218	} Exhibits Dept.
EXHIBIT HALLS: Special Exhibits			P S	Spec. Events	Carol Konieczny	218	} consulted prior to confirmation

I = Internal (meetings, etc.)
P = Public (Programs, Classes, etc.)
S = Special Events

INTERNSHIPS: A Collaborative Effort!

If you plan to use interns during 1998, we need to hear from you! In an effort to streamline communication about internship opportunities, we need for all staff/departments to provide information about your plans. We are requesting this information to have a greater understanding of our internship programs. This information will provide us with a central point of information and an avenue for communicating activity.

Everyday, the operator/switchboard, human resources office and individual departments, receive numerous inquiries from people looking for internship opportunities. With your help, we will know how to route these inquiries and provide accurate information. We can also create a comprehensive guide of opportunities that can be shared with colleges and universities, which will increase your pool of highly qualified intern applicants.

Once interns are in place (paid or unpaid) we will have a better indication of our people power. Funding, donor and various reporting agencies require this type of information from the Museum. We will now have a more accurate count.

This will also help us to keep in touch with these important members of the museum team. Interns can be a source of great contribution; not only will their experience help them to grow and learn, but they will help us with our projects, become future employees, colleagues, volunteers and donors. Planning appropriate activities for interns to ensure a positive experience, providing each intern with a warm welcome and with a list of other interns in the building will all be realized. This intern identification process will benefit us all!

Please take a moment to complete the opposite side of this sheet and send your responses to your area designate listed.

Return a complete list of your intern plans/needs by Friday, February 6, 1998. If you have questions, contact Shawn VanDerziel, Human Resources Department, ext 531. Thank you!

INTERNSHIPS: A Collaborative Effort!

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PLEASE READ THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THIS SHEET BEFORE COMPLETING. Thank you!

Staff
Name_____

Department_____

Number of Interns Needed_____

Approx. Dates Needed_____

Subject Matter/Project_____

Academic Major/s of Interns_____

PAID or UNPAID Internship?

If paid, is this a budgeted and planned position?

Do you already have someone in mind for this position? YES or NO

Please return to the appropriate designate below by Friday, February 6, 1998.

Name		Areas
Mark Alvey	for	Academic Affairs
Melissa Hilton	for	Museum Affairs
Shawn VanDerziel/ Human Resources	for	All Others